INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

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Congress Starts Hearings on Anti-Inflation Measures

Congress convened on July 26 in response to President Truman's call for a special session, and soon after hearing the President outline his 11-point anti-inflation program on the following day, the majority leadership announced that Congress will carefully consider the administration's proposals, and that the session will be of short duration and will not consider routine matters.

The Banking and Currency Committees of the House and Senate opened hearings on anti-inflation on July 28 and July 29, respectively.

The President's bill, H. R. 7062, would reinstate until June 30, 1950, substantially all the consumer credit, bank reserve, price and wage, priority and allocation, rent, and commodity exchange authority in effect during the war.

Price controls, according to the measure, might be put into effect on commodities that (1) substantially affect the cost of living, when (2) the price threatens to rise or has risen at least 20 percent above June, 1946, levels, (3) the control would be practicable and enforceable, and (4) the public interest would be served. Prices established under the bill would be set at those prevailing in November, 1947. Industry consultation is provided for in the measure. Agricultural prices could not be set at less than a price that would return the parity or comparable price to producers.

A Temporary Wage Board of six members would be created by the bill. Wage increases in industries under price controls would be authorized (1) to compensate for cost of living increases, (2) to correct inequities in wage structures, (3) to correct substandards of living, and (4) to maintain essential production.

Low Prices of Canned Foods Ignored by President

President Truman's address to Congress this week left the impression that all food prices are high. This is not true of canned foods.

A press release reporting this fact, as substantiated by Bureau of Labor Statistics figures, was mailed this week to press associations and metropolitan dailies. See story on page 282.

Canners are urged to bring this story to the attention of newspapers and radio stations in their own areas.

Army Announces Revised Canned Food Requirements

Revised requirements for canned vegetables, canned and dried fruits, and canned fish for the U. S. Army and Air Force which will be procured by the Quartermaster Corps from the 1948 pack were announced July 28 by the Department of the Army. Revisions include increased requirements for troop feeding where necessary within the United States due to increased personnel, adjusted to the stocks on hand. All purchases are subject to competitive bidding, delivery to be f.o.b. destination.

The revised requirements are as follows:

Canned Fruits

(Dozens of No. 2½ Cans)

Apples	495,000
Applesauce	228,000
Apricots	493,000
Berries	196,000
Cherries, RSP	471,000
Cherries, sweet	222,800
Fruit cocktail	656,000
Peaches	460,000
Pears	642,000
Pineapple	1,121,000
Pineapple juice	1,518,000

Canned Vegetables

(Dozens of No. 2 Cans)

Asparagus	1,000,000
Beans, Baked	348,000
Beans, Lima	408,000
Beets	149,000
Carrots	646,000
Corn	459,000
Peas	1,767,000
Sauerkraut	76,000
Snap Beans	706,000
Spinach	400,000
Tomatoes	2,169,000
Tomato Puree	203,000
Tomato Catsup	395,000
Tomato Juice	2,589,000

Canned Fish

(Dozens of No. 1 Cans)

Salmon	879,000
Sardines	483,000
Tuna	45,700

Pickles

(Gallons)

Pickles	1,517,000

In accordance with the Army procurement policy, bidders may quote prices on the total amount listed on the Invitation for Bid or on any portion of that amount.

The Invitations for Bids will be mailed from *(Please turn to page 284)*

Armed Services and VA Seek Bids on Canned Foods

VA Receives Bids on Three Crops Only from Wholesalers

The Veterans Administration advised the Association informally this week of its interest in receiving bids from canners on the VA's canned food requirements.

The Veterans Administration procurement officials stated that they opened bids on canned snap beans and canned lima beans on July 27, and found only one bid, which was from a wholesaler, for limas. When bids on canned peas were opened July 28, there were three bids, all from wholesalers.

VA now plans to invite bids again on snap beans and lima beans, with the bids to be opened on or about the end of August.

Oakland Army Depot Reports on Progress of Procurement

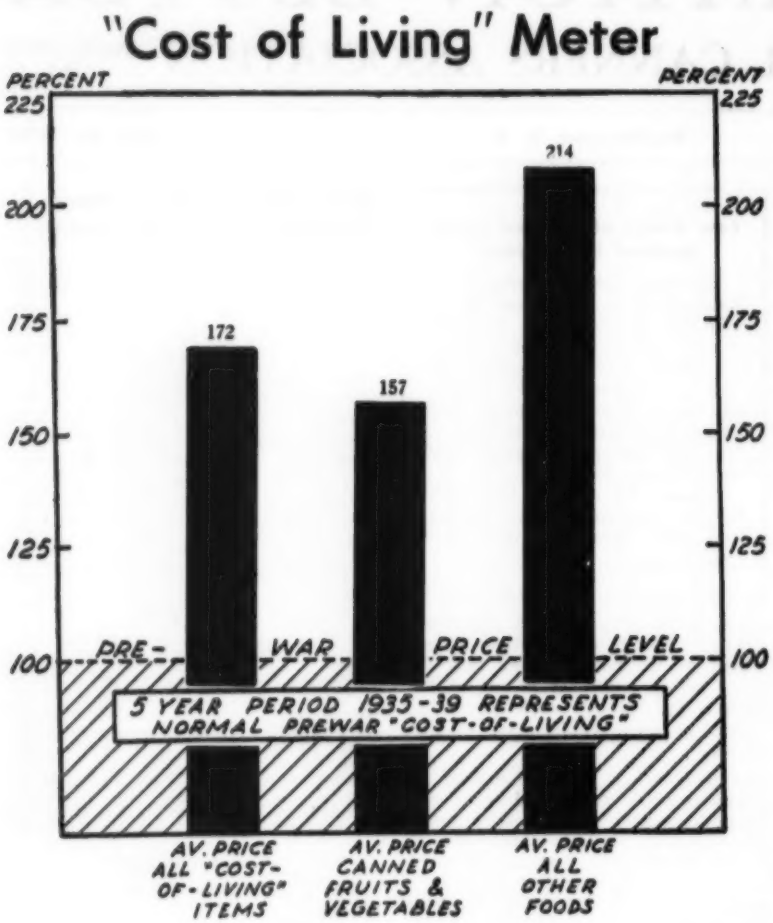
The Quartermaster Purchasing Office in Oakland has advised the Association as follows concerning procurement of canned fruits and vegetables from this year's pack by that office:

"Canned Apricots—17 percent of requirement procured on first invitation. Another invitation for balance will open August 2.

"Canned Asparagus—3 percent of requirement purchased on first invitation. Negotiating for balance.

"Canned Blackberries—2 percent procured on first invitation. Another invitation for balance, considering loganberries and boysenberries as alternates, will open August 10.

"Canned Sweet Cherries—25 percent of require- *(Please turn to page 284)*



President Truman when addressing Congress on Tuesday of this week stated: "The cost of living is now higher than ever before in our history. . . . As every housewife knows, food prices rose rapidly throughout 1947 and are climbing even faster now."

The President thus gives the impression that all food prices are high. This statement is not true with respect to canned foods.

Canned fruits and vegetables, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, declined in price throughout 1947. The most recent report of retail food prices made by that Government agency, covering June, shows that the prices of canned fruits and vegetables are 17 percent lower than in January, 1947.

The BLS reports support the statement that many foods, particularly meats, have advanced in price during the past 18 months. But canned fruits and vegetables, which represent a large proportion of the housewife's market basket, cannot be ignored when considering the family food budget.

It is evident that thousands of housewives have discovered this fact, because, according to a study recently made by the Department of Agriculture, the consumption of canned foods has increased considerably more in recent years than other foods.

The increased consumer sales of canned fruits and vegetables is further supported by current studies being carried on by the Industrial Surveys Company. These show that a larger number of families bought canned vegetables during each of the first five months of 1948 than during the corresponding months of 1947. Likewise, the quantities purchased were from 9 to 20 percent larger this year. Canned fruit sales according to these studies were also larger in 1948 than for the corresponding period in 1947.

It is significant to note also that incomes have increased materially during 1947 and 1948. The U. S. Department of Labor reports that the average weekly earnings of workers increased a little over 10 percent during this period. This increase becomes more significant when one realizes that income taxes have been substantially reduced; thus leaving relatively more of the income available to spend for food and the other necessities of life. These facts become important to the housewife in the solution of her individual problem of the high cost of food when she realizes that she can buy 20 to 25 percent more canned fruits and vegetables today with the average weekly income than she could purchase at the beginning of 1947.

STATISTICS

JULY 1 DISTRIBUTOR STOCKS

Figure on 14 Canned Foods Down 12% from June 1 and 12% Less Than Total Year Ago

Wholesale distributor stocks, including stocks in warehouses of retail food chains, of 14 principal canned food commodities *(Table 1)* totaled 35 million cases on July 1, according to an announcement made July 30 by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. July 1 stocks were down 12 percent from the 40 million cases on June 1, 1948, and were off 9 percent from the 39 millions on July 1, 1947. The July 1, 1943-45 average was 26 million cases.

Stocks of green and wax beans were off 30 percent from a year ago, and peas were down 26 percent. Corn stocks were up slightly (2 percent) from a year ago, while tomato holdings were up 27 percent from July 1, 1947.

Wholesalers' July 1 stocks of four of the five principal canned fruits were considerably above the level of a year earlier. Stocks of mixed fruits and peaches were each up more than a million cases over a year earlier; pears increased 417,000 cases; and pineapple stocks were up almost 300,000 cases. Apricot stocks, on the other hand, were off by 649,000 cases. For the group as a whole, stocks increased from 6 to 8 million cases.

Wholesalers' stocks of four (tomato, grapefruit, orange, and blended citrus

juices) of the five juices shown in this report were off 1 to 44 percent from July 1, 1947. On the other hand, stocks of pineapple juice increased 67 percent.

Data presented in the tables following on wholesale stocks are based upon reports submitted to the Bureau of the Census by warehouses of retail food chains and by a sample of food wholesalers.

Table 1. Fourteen Canned Food Commodities

STOCKS OF WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS (INCLUDING WAREHOUSES OF RETAIL FOOD CHAINS)

Commodity	July 1, 1948 [p]	June 1, 1948 [r]	May 1, 1948	July 1, 1947	July 1, 1943–1945
	1,000 cases	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*
FOUR VEGETABLES:	18,380	20,922	23,628	20,686	11,838
Beans, green and wax	2,402	2,592	2,944	3,446	3,386
Corn	5,156	6,249	7,194	5,032	3,381
Peas	6,619	7,160	7,848	8,903	2,098
Tomatoes	4,209	4,921	5,642	3,305	2,973
FIVE FRUITS:	8,269	9,650	10,692	5,940	2,691
Apricots	1,063	1,198	1,326	1,712	262
Mixed fruits [1]	1,572	1,896	2,133	421	393
Peaches	4,018	4,741	5,274	2,904	1,141
Pears	1,051	1,205	1,320	634	484
Pineapple	565	610	639	269	411
FIVE JUICES:	8,320	9,064	9,691	11,935	11,729
Tomato [2]	3,099	3,412	3,693	5,571	3,687
Grapefruit	1,998	2,086	2,181	3,010	4,882
Orange	2,058	2,238	2,374	2,087	[3] 2,823
Blended citrus	911	972	1,038	1,115	
Pineapple	254	356	405	152	337
Total	34,975	39,636	44,011	38,561	26,258

Table 2. Fourteen Canned Food Commodities

STOCKS OF WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS (INCLUDING WAREHOUSES OF RETAIL FOOD CHAINS)

Commodity	—July 1, 1948 [p]—		—June 1, 1948 [r]—	
	Smaller than No. 10	No. 10 and larger	Smaller than No. 10	No. 10 and larger
	1,000 cases	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*
FOUR VEGETABLES:	16,765	1,621	18,929	1,993
Beans, green and wax	2,006	396	2,178	414
Corn	4,919	237	5,949	300
Peas	6,195	424	6,688	472
Tomatoes	3,645	564	4,114	807
FIVE FRUITS:	6,941	1,328	8,083	1,567
Apricots	779	284	869	329
Mixed fruits [1]	1,504	68	1,805	91
Peaches	3,303	715	3,892	849
Pears	917	134	1,044	161
Pineapple	438	127	473	137
FIVE JUICES:	7,908	412	8,590	474
Tomato [2]	2,802	297	3,092	320
Grapefruit	1,948	50	2,028	58
Orange	2,027	31	2,189	49
Blended citrus	899	12	953	19
Pineapple	232	22	328	28
Total	31,614	3,361	35,602	4,034

Table 3. Four Canned Food Commodities

COMBINED WHOLESALE AND PACKER STOCKS AND SHIPMENTS

Commodity	Wholesale and packer stocks July 1		Wholesale and packer stocks June 1		Wholesale and packer combined shipments June	
	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947
	1,000 cases	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*
Beans, green and wax	2,621	4,833	3,175	5,706	554	873
Corn	5,716	5,856	7,414	7,784	1,698	1,928
Tomatoes	6,159	3,667	7,436	4,410	1,277	743
Tomato juice [1]	6,677	10,601	8,284	11,774	1,607	1,173
Total	21,173	24,957	26,309	29,674	5,136	4,717

[p] Preliminary. [r] Revised. [1] Includes fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, mixed fruits (except citrus). [2] Includes vegetable juice combinations containing at least 70 percent tomato juice. [3] 1944–1945 average.
NOTE: Information on packers' stocks supplied by National Canners Association.

June Canned Meat Pack

The pack of canned meat processed in "official establishments," during June, 1948, as reported by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is shown below:

Canned Meat and Meat Products Packed by Official Establishments, June, 1948 *

Items	Slicing and institutional sizes (3 lbs. and over)	Consumer packages or shelf sizes (under 3 lbs.)	Total all sizes
	—*In Thousand Pounds*—		
Luncheon meat	20,775	13,180	33,955
Canned hams	8,859	532	9,391
Corned beef	188	5,722	5,910
Chili con carne	250	3,669	3,919
Vienna sausage	67	5,706	5,773
Other potted and deviled meat products	.....	5,075	5,075
Deviled ham	.....	1,156	1,156
Tamales	15	2,111	2,126
Sliced dried beef	12	473	485
Liver products	.....	293	293
Meat stew	1	2,832	2,833
Spaghetti meat products	145	3,002	3,237
Tongue (except pickled)	147	540	687
Vinegar pickled products	777	1,970	2,747
All other products 20% or more meat	1,119	8,593	9,712
All other products less than 20% meat (except soup)	2	7,850	7,852
Total all products	32,356	62,792	95,151

* Some establishments failed to report canning operations for June, and the late reports will be included in the July figures. NOTE: Columns do not add to totals shown in all cases since rounded figures are used.

Shipments of Glass Containers

Shipments of glass containers in June totaled 7,687,000 gross, a decline of 6 percent compared with May, according to the Bureau of the Census, Commerce Department. The decline was accounted for chiefly by lower shipments of fruit jars, off 31 percent, and beverage bottles. Shipments of other food containers increased 27 percent.

Dry Pea Production Lower

Production of dry peas is estimated to be 2,983,000 bags (100 pounds, uncleaned basis), only 46 percent of the 1947 production of 6,513,000 bags and 57 percent of the 10-year average production of 5,278,000 bags according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The indicated yield of 975 pounds per acre is 277 pounds less than last year, when yields were about average.

The acreage for harvest this year is estimated at 306,000 acres, the smallest since 1941 and only 74 percent of the 1937-46 average. Only in

Wisconsin and Wyoming, both minor producers of dry field peas, is the 1948 acreage for harvest as large as last year's, while in the two most important producing states, Washington and Idaho, acreages for harvest are down 40 and 42 percent, respectively, from last year.

HOME ECONOMICS

Home Economics Literature Used in Special Publications

Numerous organizations request permission to bring to the attention of their readers or membership, certain of the publications of the Association's Home Economics Division

During the first six months of 1948 the following organizations have written reviews of various materials, or have requested permission to offer either the educational or recipe publications.

Institutions Magazine, a magazine which is broadly distributed to people in all types of quantity food services.

Girl Scouts Magazine, the official magazine of the National Girl Scouts organization.

Educators Index of Free Materials —1948 Edition, a publication of the Educators Progress Service.

Elementary Teachers Guide for Free Curriculum Materials, 1948 Edition, a publication of the Educators Progress Service.

Index to Quantity Recipe Information—1948 Edition, A service bulletin of the *American Home* Magazine.

Science Clubs of America Sponsor Handbook—1949 Edition, listing of materials available to science students and teachers.

Christian Herald, a widely distributed religious publication.

Institutions Catalog Directory, a publication of *Institutions Magazine*.

School Management, magazine for general distribution to vocational as well as science and other schools.

Journal of American Dietetic Association, official magazine of the American Dietetic Association, distributed to hospital dietitians and many quantity food managers, as well as teachers of institutional management.

What's New for Hospitals, a supplement to *Modern Hospital* distributed to nurses and other personnel of hospitals.

College and University Business, a publication of Nations Schools Publishing Co., Inc.

Invitations to Bid

QMC Offices—Quartermaster Corps, 111 East 16th Street, New York, N. Y.; Chicago Quartermaster Purchasing Office, 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Ill.; Western Branch, Chicago Quartermaster Purchasing Office, Oakland Army Base, Oakland 14, Calif.

Veterans Administration—Procurement Division, Veterans Administration Building, Washing 25, D. C.

The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act will apply to all operations performed after the date of notice of award if the total value of a contract is $10,000 or over.

The Army has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

CANNED SWEETPOTATOES — 399,898 dozen No. 2½ or 610,280 dozen No. 2 or 644,456 dozen No. 3 squat or 113,727 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due at Chicago under serial No. QM-11-183-49-36 by Aug. 3.

CANNED MEATS — 150,000 pounds smoked bacon in 7½ lb. cans; 400,000 pounds corned beef in 6 lb. cans; 50,000 pounds canned beef in 6 lb. cans; 150,000 pounds beef and gravy in 34 oz. cans; 150,000 pounds boned chicken in 35 oz. cans; 100,000 pounds chili con carne in 6 lb. 8 oz. cans; 200,000 pounds luncheon meat in 6 lb. cans; 150,000 pounds vienna sausage in 24 oz. cans; and 200,000 pounds corned beef hash in 5 lb. 12 oz. or 6 lb. 12 oz. cans. Bids due at Chicago under serial No. QM-11-183-49-28 by Aug. 11.

FRUIT COCKTAIL—296,620 dozen No. 2½ and 84,641 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due at Oakland under serial No. QM-04-493-49-19 by Aug. 18.

FRUIT COCKTAIL—47,930 dozen No. 2½ and 52,197 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due at Oakland under serial No. QM-04-493-49-20 by Aug. 18.

FRUIT COCKTAIL—416 dozen No. 2½ and 2,500 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due at Oakland under serial No. QM-04-493-49-21 by Aug. 18.

CANNED PEARS—291,144 dozen No. 2½ and 83,366 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due at Oakland under serial No. QM-04-493-49-6 by Aug. 20.

CANNED PEARS—32,980 dozen No. 2½ and 35,917 dozen No. 10. Bids due at Oakland under serial No. QM-04-493-49-23 by Aug. 20.

CANNED PEARS—10,900 dozen No. 2½ and 500 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due at Oakland under serial No. QM-04-493-49-24 by Aug. 20.

The Veterans Administration has requested sealed bids to furnish the following:

CANNED BEETS—12,500 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due under Invitation No. 28-S by Aug. 23.

FRUIT COCKTAIL—6,715 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due under Invitation No. 29-S by Aug. 23.

CANNED FIGS (Kadota)—1,417 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due under Invitation No. 31-S by Aug. 25.

CANNED FRUITS (diabetic)—6,332 dozen No. 2 cans of Kadota figs; 10,250 dozen No. 2 cans of fruits for salad; and 2,888 dozen No. 2 cans of plums. Bids due under Invitation No. 33-S by Aug. 25.

Progress of Procurement

(Concluded from page 281)

ment procured on first invitation. All bids rejected on second invitation because offers considered too high. Third invitation, for balance, opened July 20.

"Canned Fruit Cocktail—2 percent of requirement procured on first invitation. All bids rejected on second invitation because offers considered too high. Third invitation, for balance, will open August 18.

"Canned Peaches—All bids rejected on first invitation because prices were considered too high. Another invitation will open August 16.

"Canned Pears—All bids rejected on first invitation because prices were considered too high. Another bid will open August 20.

"Canned Pineapple — Negotiating for entire requirement.

"Canned Pineapple Juice—Negotiating for entire requirement."

Canned Food Requirements

(Concluded from page 281)

the Chicago Quartermaster Purchasing Office, Chicago, or from the Western Branch, Chicago Quartermaster Purchasing Office, Oakland, Calif., depending on the item. Companies who are not presently on the list to receive bids may make application to both the Chicago and Oakland Purchasing Offices to have their names placed on the list of those to receive bids on any of the items listed.

Army Contract Awards

The following contract awards for canned foods have been announced:

Canned Cherries

(Awarded by Chicago, Bid No. QM-11-183-49-2)

Quantity (doz.)	*Price*	*F.O.B. Point*
13,542 No. 2 (d)	$2.66	Atlanta, Ga.
14,458 No. 2 (d)	2.56	Columbus, Ohio

Canned Pears

(Awarded by Oakland on July 2)

Quantity (doz.)	*Price*	*F.O.B. Point*
2,500 No. 2½ (d)	$3.85	Schenectady, N. Y.
2,420 No. 2½ (d)	4.1186	Lyoth, Calif.
7,500 No. 2½ (d)	4.32	Columbus, Ohio
1,500 No. 10 (d)	15.45	Columbus, Ohio

(d) domestic.

MEETINGS

Minnesota Canners Association

The annual convention of the Minnesota Canners Association has been scheduled December 16 at Hotel Radisson, Minneapolis, according to an announcement by Edwin W. Elmer, secretary-treasurer.

Western Packaging Exposition

The first Western Packaging Exposition along with a concurrent first Western Conference on Packaging, Packing and Shipping, is scheduled for August 10 to 13 at the Civic Auditorium, San Francisco. About 100 exhibitors of machinery, equipment, materials, supplies and packages will participate and several authorities on various phases of packaging will participate in the conference. Among these are Irving Lyons, Chairman of the N. C. A. Traffic Committee and traffic manager of the California Packing Corp.; J. E. Hall, production manager of Pictsweet Foods, Inc.; and John A. Warren, package consultant of American Home Products Corporation.

Forthcoming Meetings

August 8-12—Vegetable Growers of America, 40th Annual Convention, Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Md.

August 10-13 — Western Packaging Exposition and Conference, Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, Calif.

August 18-21—National Food Distributors Association, Sherman Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

August 27—California Olive Association, Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Calif.

September 20-22—American Meat Institute, Annual Convention, Waldorf-Astoria, New York, N. Y.

October 5-7 — Industrial Packaging Engineers Association, 3rd Annual Industrial Packaging and Materials Handling Exhibition, Sherman Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

October 14-16—Florida Canners Association, 17th Annual Meeting, Soreno Hotel, St. Petersburg, Fla.

October 21-23—Texas Canners Association, Annual Convention, Gran Hotel Ancira, Monterrey, Mexico.

October 27—National Pickle Packers Association, Annual Meeting, Sheraton Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

November 4-5—Ozark Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Colonial Hotel, Springfield, Mo.

November 8-9—Wisconsin Canners Association, Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wis.

November 10-12—National Canners Association, Board of Directors and Administrative Council, Fall Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago, Ill.

November 15-16—Illinois Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Chicago, Ill.

November 15-17—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., Annual Meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York, N. Y.

November 18-19—Indiana Canners Association, Fall Convention, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.

November 22-23—Iowa-Nebraska Canners Association, Annual Convention, Hotel Savery, Des Moines, Iowa

November 22-23—Tri-State Packers Association, Fall Convention, Hotel Traymore, Atlantic City, N. J.

November 30-December 1—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 34th Annual Convention, Penn-Harris Hotel, Harrisburg, Pa.

December 6-8—New Jersey State Horticultural Society, Annual Meeting, Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

December 7-9—Michigan State Horticultural Meeting, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, Mich.

December 9-10—Association of New York State Canners, Inc., 63rd Annual Meeting, Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y.

December 10—Michigan Canners Association, Winter Meeting, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, Mich.

December 14-15—Ohio Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus, Ohio

December 16—Minnesota Canners Association, Annual Convention, Hotel Radisson, Minneapolis, Minn.

January 6-7—Northwest Canners Association, 1949 Annual Meeting, Olympic Hotel, Seattle, Wash.

January 11-14—National-American Wholesale Grocers Association, 1949 Convention, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 14-20—National Canners Association, 42nd Annual Convention, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 15-19—Canning Machinery & Supplies Association, Annual Exhibit, Convention Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 9-11—Ozark Canners Association, 41st Annual Convention, Colonial Hotel, Springfield, Mo.

March 6—National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Annual Meeting, Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

March 9-11—Canners League of California, Annual Convention, Casa del Rey Hotel, Santa Cruz, Calif.

April 12—Monterey Fish Processors Association, Annual Meeting, Monterey, Calif.

May 29-June 3—U. S. Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention, St. Louis, Mo.

PERSONNEL

Paul C. Stark Is Named PMA Food Distribution Consultant

Resignation of Paul C. Stark as Director of the Food Distribution Programs Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture and his appointment as Consultant on Food Distribution, were announced by Ralph S. Trigg, PMA Administrator.

Mr. Stark is leaving his administrative post in order to devote more time to his own personal and business affairs. H. C. Albin, Associate Director of the Branch, will serve as Acting Director.

Mr. Stark entered Government service in May, 1945, as Director of the Office of Home Food Supply in the War Food Administration. He was named Director of the PMA Food Distribution Programs Branch in March, 1946.

Beeson Named to Head USDA Laboratory at Ithaca

Appointment of Dr. Kenneth C. Beeson as director of the U. S. Plant, Soil, and Nutrition Laboratory at Ithaca, N. Y., has been announced by Dr. W. V. Lambert, Agricultural Research Administrator, and will be effective August 1. Dr. Beeson succeeds Dr. Karl C. Hamner, who recently resigned to become head of the Department of Botany at the University of California at Los Angles.

The new director is a native of Clinton, Iowa. He attended the University of Iowa, where he received the bachelor's degree in 1925 and the master's degree in 1927. In February, 1948, he received the Ph.D. degree in soil chemistry from Cornell University.

Dr. Beeson has been employed by the Department since 1930 and has been engaged in research related to soils for the last 18 years. He is author of numerous technical publications on soils and fertilizers and the relation of soils to nutrition.

FOREIGN TRADE

FAO Reports on Europe's Food

Compared with the past few years, Europe in the next three years may buy less food from the United States and Canada and more from other countries, according to a report on *European Programs of Agricultural Reconstruction and Development* issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Despite substantial restoration of prewar crop acreages by 1950, and of most kinds of livestock except horses, Europe will not be producing as much meat and livestock then as it produced before the war, the report states. Because of the increase in population, Europeans will not be fed as well on the average as prewar.

The agricultural plans of European countries as a whole call for larger importations of food grains and meat than prewar, and envision an expansion of intra-European trade.

Implement Trade Agreements

Twenty-two of the 23 countries signing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade at Geneva on October 30, 1947, have signed the Protocol of Provisional Application, meeting the June 30 date for such signature.

The 22 nations which have signed the Protocol are the United States, United Kingdom, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg, Canada, Australia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, China, Union of South Africa, India, Norway, Southern Rhodesia, Burma, Ceylon, Lebanon, Brazil, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Syria.

Chile has requested a six-months extension of the deadline for signing the Protocol. The State Department has announced that the scheduling of future tariff negotiations is on the agenda for the Second Session of the contracting parties to the General Agreement to be convened at Geneva on August 15.

Puerto Rico Pineapple Crop

About 3,000 acres of the Hawaiian variety of pineapple are scheduled to be planted in Puerto Rico, according to an announced Territorial government agricultural plan. The decision to plant a dry-soil variety of pineapple is a result of successful experimentation carried on since 1945 on the Island of Vieques.

NEW ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

The following firms have been admitted into membership in the Association since July 3, 1948:

Consumers Packing Co., Plum & Liberty Sts., Lancaster, Pa.

Delicacies, Incorporated, 1005 Post St., Seattle 4, Wash.

Goodhue Canning Company, c/o Owatonna Canning Co., Owatonna, Minn.

G. Oberti & Sons, P. O. Box 899, Madera, Calif.

Queen Fisheries, Inc., c/o R. C. Mounsey & Co., 707 Securities Building, Seattle 1, Wash.

Schmitt Canning Co., Inc., Arcanum, Ohio

RAW PRODUCTS

Control of Tomato Diseases

A bulletin entitled *Control of Tomato Diseases by Spraying*, written by Dr. W. T. Schroeder of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y., gives a detailed account of three years of study on the control of the major tomato diseases.

Purpose of the experiments was to determine which fungicide or combination of fungicides would give the most effective control with the least amount of injury. Both the disease control and the yield of the tested plants were measured, and trends point to a combination of Zerlate and bordeaux mixture as being satisfactory.

The bulletin is numbered 724, and single copies are available from the Experiment Station upon request.

ANTITRUST

FTC Warns Against Mergers

The Federal Trade Commission on July 26 issued a report calling attention to the loophole in the Clayton Act which permits corporations to purchase the assets of competing firms. FTC urged the enactment of anti-monopoly legislation, S. 104-H.R. 3736, to check what was termed the "growth in concentration."

FTC said that since 1940, more than 2,450 independent manufacturing and mining companies have disappeared. The report did not state what proportion was merged with larger concerns.

Mergers have been "most conspicuous in such industries as food and beverages, textiles and apparel, and chemicals (including drugs). Together, these three groups accounted for over one-third of the total number of acquisitions," FTC reported.

Predominant in the merger movement were "horizontal acquisitions," outstanding recent examples of which have involved direct competitors in canned milk, it was said. The report also stated that drug firms have expanded into the baby food business.

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